

In the Claims

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A method of producing a foam element, comprising:
placing a fleece with a ferromagnetic coating directly thereon on a wall of a foam mold,
said coating extending across an entire surface of the fleece facing and engaging the wall of the
foam mold;
producing a magnetic field cooperating with the ferromagnetic coating to hold detachably
the fleece in position on the wall of the foam mold;
molding the foam element in the foam mold with the fleece on the wall thereof;
removing the molded foam element from the foam mold with the fleece embedded into a
surface of the foam element as a barrier layer.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein
the fleece is a polyester of 20 to 60 g/m².

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein
said fleece is a PET fleece; and
the ferromagnetic coating is applied to said fleece at 60 to 100 g/m².

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14 wherein the ferromagnetic coating has a composition including 80 parts polyurethane and 20 parts ferrite powder, and is processed with a solvent into an easily spreadable material.

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein the ferromagnetic coating has a composition including 80 parts polyurethane and 20 parts ferrite powder, and is processed with a solvent into an easily spreadable material.

17. (currently amended) A method according to claim 16 wherein the polyurethane is SU-4715 from Firma Stahl; the ferrite powder comprises iron particles of 10 microns; and the solvent is ~~Butamon~~ 1-butamone.

18. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein the ferromagnetic coating is applied to the fleece by a blade as an easily spreadable material.

19. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein the ferromagnetic coating is applied to the fleece by a nozzle as an easily spreadable material.

20. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein the ferromagnetic coating is applied as an easily spreadable material to the fleece on a carrier strip moved relative to an applicator.

21. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein the ferromagnetic coating is applied as an easily spreadable material directly to the fleece used as a carrier of the material.

22. (previously presented) A method according to claim 21 wherein the fleece is conveyed through a dryer after application of the easily spreadable material.

23. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein the ferromagnetic coating is applied by an applicator as an easily spreadable material as a layer on a strip of a silicon-coated carrier moved relative to the applicator; and the strip of the carrier with the layer and a strip of the fleece are conveyed through a laminator to laminate the layer on the carrier onto the fleece.

24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 23 wherein the fleece is conveyed through a dryer after the laminator.

25. (previously presented) A method according to claim 24 wherein the carrier and the fleece are separated from one another following passage through the dryer.

26. (presently amended) A foam element, comprising a body of molded foam material; and a barrier layer on one surface of said body, said barrier layer being a fleece with a ferromagnetic coating directly thereon, said fleece being embedded into said surface of said body, said coating extending entirely across a surface of said fleece.

27. (previously presented) A foam element according to claim 26 wherein said ferromagnetic coating is on a surface of said barrier layer remote from said body of molded foam material.

28. (new) A foam element according to claim 27 wherein a surface of said barrier layer embedded into said surface of body is free of said ferromagnetic coating.

29. (new) A method according to claim 12 wherein an inner surface of said fleece, opposite the entire surface with the ferromagnetic coating, is free of the ferromagnetic coating; and

said inner surface faces away from the wall of the foam mold when the fleece is placed on that wall for embedding in the foam element.